

Chicago Eagle.

"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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PROTECTS THE BANKS.

**Pinkerton's National Detective Agency
Makes Its Annual Report to Amer-
ican Bankers' Association.**

**No Longer Profitable for Either the
Officials or Thieves to Rob
Banks.**

**A Very Interesting Account of the Work
of the Sleuths for a
Year.**

The annual report of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency to the American Bankers' Association, which is just published, is very interesting reading and gives additional proof of the great value to the business and financial world. It is no longer profitable to rob a bank, whether the robber is a professional thief or a bank official.

The year was a notable one in the matter of speedy prosecution and conviction of the bank criminals. Paul O. Stensland and Henry W. Hering of the Milwaukee Avenue State bank, Frank G. Bigelow and Henry Goll of Milwaukee, and Newton C. Dougherty of the Peoria National bank were some of the well known bank officials convicted and sentenced to prison during the year.

Of the less prominent bank wreckers, burglars and forgers seventy accused men were arrested in the twelve months from Sept. 1, 1905, to Sept. 1, 1906, and of these fifty-one were convicted.

The records of the twelve months' period, as compiled by the Pinkerton National Detective Agency for the American Bankers' Association, is an interesting one, showing the inevitable prison ending of the bank wrecker and robber. Of the seventy charged with bank crimes, not including bank officials, forty-five were accused of forgery and twenty-five of burglary. Of these thirty-one forgers and twenty burglars were convicted.

The total amount of money stolen from the banks by forgers and burglars, aside from embezzlements, was \$103,032 in the period covered by the report.

There were forty-one successful crimes committed, where the criminals escaped with the loot, but in nearly all cases they were afterward captured. In the same time there were forty-seven attempts at forgery and burglary which failed.

The total of the sentences imposed upon the convicted bank criminals is 278 years and 7 months, of which the burglars must serve an aggregate of 101 years and 6 months, and the forgers 87 years and 1 month. Eleven forgers and one burglar secured indeterminate sentences, one forger escaped, but was recaptured, and twelve are now awaiting trial.

Five men accused of burglary and two accused of forgery were released during the twelve months.

Of the nineteen burglars who were sentenced to specific terms, W. H. Sprout secured the record of the year in his conviction for fifty-nine years in the state prison at Folsom, Cal. Sprout's criminal career has been an exciting one. He has already served four terms in prison, thirteen years in all. If he does not die or secure his release before the expiration of his present term he will have a record of seventy-two years of prison life.

Sprout was arrested by the sheriff of Sacramento, Cal., for the attempted burglary of the Farmers' Co-operative Union bank, at Yuba City, Cal., Nov. 8, 1905. Nov. 10 he escaped from the Yuba City jail, but was recaptured Jan. 8, 1906, at Pueblo, Cal., with four burglars, on another charge, and was returned to California. He is considered a desperate criminal and was sentenced for fifty years for the attempted burglary of the bank and nine years for jail-breaking.

The companion of Sprout, Edward Whalen, 10 years old, was given an indeterminate sentence in the reform school at Preston, Cal., for the Yuba City crime.

Safe-blowers, or "eggmen," as they are known, are declared to infest the middle west more thickly than any other section of the country.

The bankers are making a concerted effort to have a stringent law passed in each state fixing the punishment for entering a building at night for the purpose of committing crime, or using or attempting to use explosives for bur-

glary, at from twenty-five to thirty years.

Among the forgers, nineteen were sentenced to specific terms, the longest term being for ten years, given to C. D. Romero in the state penitentiary at Lincoln, Neb., for obtaining \$1,100 on a forged check from the bank at Bridgeport, Neb.

The king of the forgers, as far as the amount of booty secured is concerned, was Harry A. Leonard, 25 years old, a broker's clerk, who obtained \$350,000 worth of securities from the National City bank of New York. The securities were obtained through a forged check and forged certification Sept. 27, 1905, but three days later he was arrested and the securities were returned.

Leonard pleaded guilty and was sentenced to an indeterminate period of from thirteen months to five years in the Elmira, N. Y., reformatory.

One woman, Mrs. Cecil Ring, was arrested upon the charge of forging the name of her employer, in Rochester, N. Y., and she is now awaiting trial.

One alleged forger, George Dunning, a fugitive from New York, was arrested in Chicago.

Few sneak thieves have operated in the banks in the last year, and the detective agency has had no complaint of any crime of this character in the twelve months.

Has there ever been a fair election in Chicago since the adoption of the Australian ballot system? Most people are beginning to doubt it. It is freely predicted that a recount of the ballots would show that Ernest Hummel was elected County Treasurer last fall. He ran 10,000 votes ahead of his ticket as it was, and it is said that many judges of election never count anything but straight tickets.

Puritanism run mad, is about the proper definition of the acts of some of the young lawyers who have been suddenly boosted into big salaries in the Municipal Court.

Of what use are the mounted police? They are a nice looking lot of men on very fine horses. But in the crowded downtown streets they are absolutely useless either as guardians of the peace or as thief catchers.

The movement for the nomination of Alexander H. Revell as a business men's candidate for Mayor, as distinguished from a mere political candidate, is gaining force. It is said meetings calling upon Mr. Revell to enter the race have been held in eleven wards, and hundreds of business men have become interested. Sixty-two physicians, headed by Dr. Nicholas Senn, have pledged themselves to the movement. Included in a list of 100 business men given out by the temporary committee in charge of the organization work are Edgar M. Snow, James L. Thayer, Franz Amberg, L. A. Seeburger, H. C. Barlow and S. D. Kerfoot.

The swelling in the heads of some of the judges of the new Municipal Court is something awful.

Barzzen, the Building Commissioner, is too good to last. We have watched his career and fail to note any public benefit whatever from his four-flushes. He certainly put it all over some of the "reform" Hyde Park Aldermen, but he only made them more popular, as their votes on the traction question proved.

The County Assessors are all torn up over the published statement that former Mayor Harrison is to have a millionaire committee finance his campaign. The members are Honore Palmer, Claude Seymour, George Beldier, B. M. Winston, Charles T. Otis, Will-



WILLIAM A. PINKERTON,
Head of the World Renowned Pinkerton's National Detective Agency.

iam Waller and A. O. Slaughter, Jr. It is claimed the combined check of those gentlemen would be good for \$85,000,000.

Several of these men have escaped the Assessors entirely, while the rest are assessed for nominal amounts.

The Illinois Legislators should return their annual passes to the railroads. If they need more money for mileage the state should give it to them. But they should not be placed under obligations to the tax dodging, man killing railroads. Nor can they do their duty by the people when they are under such obligations.

Wabbly Willie Wheelock has been dragged out again as a candidate for Superior Court Judge. No great difficulty was experienced in dragging him out.

The proposal to turn over the dogs confined in the dog pound to amateur surgeons to be tortured alive, is worthy of White City Aldermen. It is the most brutal proposition that the general public has ever heard of.

An open grafter is bad enough, but a hypocritical grafter who sails under the name of a goody, goody reformer is a stench in the nostrils of every good citizen.

All officers of the Board of West Chicago Park Commissioners were re-elected Tuesday afternoon at the annual meeting, as follows:

President—Bernard A. Eckhart.
Auditor—Frederick F. Bullen.
Treasurer—Alonso Wygant.
General Superintendent—Jens Jensen.

Attorney—Benjamin F. Richardson.
Engineer—A. C. Schrader.
Assistant Secretary—John M. Dingman.

Captain of Police—Frank P. Tyrell. In his report President Eckhart set forth that the finances of the board were in an excellent condition and that the \$1,000,000 bond issue on the small parks and \$1,000,000 of the \$2,000,000 bond issue on the improvement and maintenance bonds had been disposed of.

"I am well satisfied with the work of the Board," said President Eckhart. "It is only a short time when the park

system on the West Side of Chicago will be one of the finest in the world."

Dr. Frank W. Kelly, the genial Assistant Commissioner of Health, is one of the most valuable officials in the City Hall. A veteran newspaper man, he is also an accomplished and skillful physician, and his work for the public has never been appreciated as it should be.

Roger C. Sullivan has showed the Jacksonville cabal who the real leader of the Democratic party in Illinois is. The Cabal has been pretty quiet lately.

They are thinking of running Tom Webb towards the lake in the Twenty-third Ward. This should be stopped. The water supply must be protected.

Mandamus proceedings were begun Tuesday to close thirty bars on Sundays in large clubs, hotels and saloons. Mayor Dunne is named as respondent in each petition, which was filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for William Brown Lloyd and John Rockinger, a West Side manufacturer. The proceedings are similar to those brought against the Mayor and Alderman Kenas in the Superior Court two weeks ago by the Sunday Closing League.

Attorney Seymour Stedman, who, with his partner, Charles H. Soelke, appears as the lawyer of record, declares that the persons behind the action aim "to compel the richest places in Chicago to obey the law as well as others." Mr. Stedman denied any connection with the closing league. He outlined a platform similar to that of the Socialists and asserted the men behind the action stood for such principles.

He declared that many more suits would be started.

Congressman Martin B. Madden is making a great fight for the business people of the country in his battle against the railroad rebate system.

The Press Club of Chicago held its annual election and again placed John J. Flynn at the helm. There was no opposition to Mr. Flynn, nor to any other nominee excepting in the choice for librarian, where there was a friendly tilt between Francis R. E. Woodward and Herbert W. Bloomington, the lat-

ter winning by a margin of three votes. The officers are:

President—John J. Flynn.

First Vice President—Frank M. Morris.

Second Vice President—Milton Bucklin.

Third Vice President—Douglas Malloch.

Financial Secretary—Joseph F. Henderson.

Recording Secretary—Earl Marble.

Treasurer—Albert G. Beaunisme.

Librarian—Herbert W. Bloomington.

Directors—Fred K. Pelham, Charles Walter Brown, W. R. Fairchild, Charles Eugene Banks and Arthur Henderson.

The traction question seems to be "settling" itself to suit some people.

In the meantime the Aldermen should not forget to raise the wages of the firemen.

Yet resigned.

The City Council Judiciary Committee has finally agreed upon a cold storage ordinance. As proposed the new ordinance will include the following clauses:

Licensing of all houses which handle cold storage products at \$25 a year. Inspection of all cold storage products at given periods by inspectors from the Health Department.

Creation of an office of Chief Inspector for cold storage houses, the Inspector to be especially qualified by technical education for the position. All cold storage plants shall be kept in sanitary and cleanly condition, inspectors to say what sanitary conditions are.

Punishment for violation of any of these clauses is to be a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

John F. Higgins, the well-known and popular Chicago printer, and champion of Mayor Dunne's re-election for the four-year term, left on Wednesday night in a private car for Hot Springs, Ark., for rest and recuperation.

The new Municipal Court is not as popular as it was just before election. The people are wondering what sort of an elephant they have on their hands.

BEEF TRUST HARD HIT.

**Chicago at Last Wakes Up and Will Go
After the Bad Meat
Dealers.**

**Government Inspection of No Earthly
Use So Far as Chicago Is
Concerned.**

**City Inspectors Seize Four Hundred Head of
Diseased Cattle Passed by Gov-
ernment Men.**

Patrick J. Murray, the able, efficient and honest Chief Food Inspector, has issued a mandate that after Jan. 15 next every section of a carcass sold to a Chicago butcher or destined for sale within the city limits must bear the stamp of approval of the Chicago Health Department. The mark of the local inspectors will be independent of and in addition to the stamp of the government inspectors.

During last month 400 emaciated cattle which had been approved by the federal officials were condemned and ordered to be tanked by Inspector Murray's men.

Since the establishment of the new meat inspection regulations the relations between city health officials and government inspectors at the stockyards have not always been cordial, and instances in which meat passed by the government has been condemned by the city have been increasing in frequency.

The immediate cause of the new regulation, however, is the discovery by the Health Department that packing houses which do a local business have been sending out meat without any inspection.

To prevent these and similar evasions Inspector Murray determined that the new stamp should be adopted. Subsequently, with the clashes between his inspectors and those of the government possibly in mind, it was decided that the regulation be applied to all the Chicago packers.

Not a pound of meat can be sold by a Chicago butcher, Murray declares, unless the section from which it comes bears this mark of approval from the Health Department.

The Eagle's crusade for pure food has had a good effect in more ways than one. According to the annual report of Dr. Charles J. Whalen, Commissioner of Health, an increase of the food inspection forces has made possible the condemnation and destruction of more than 10,000,000 pounds of unfit and unwholesome foodstuffs, as compared with less than 4,000,000 pounds in 1905—which was then a larger amount than in any previous year. At the average retail prices before condemnation this implies that Chicago housekeepers have been saved from paying out more than \$1,000,000 for unwholesome and poisonous foods—a saving that has even a greater value than the sum in dollars and cents in the prevention of sickness and premature death.

During the week ending January 5, 1907, the city meat inspectors at the Union Stockyards condemned and destroyed 200,428 pounds of bad meat.

The death rate will be high in Chicago as long as the Beef Trust is allowed to place on sale bad meat.

The Illinois Legislature should now get down to real business and investigate the Beef Trust.

The friends of Carter H. Harrison are not saying much, but they are saving a great deal of wood.

Chicago has had enough of reform Aldermen.

Announcement was made that nearly 200 acceptances, a large proportion of which are from labor leaders, have been received in response to invitations issued by the National Civic Federation for the conference to be held at the residence of Mrs. Potter Palmer, Secretary Ralph M. Easley of the Federation, who has arrived in the city, expressed the opinion that the meeting is certain to be a success. "Prominent employers and labor men have shown a disposition to help this movement

along," said Mr. Easley, "and I am highly gratified over the outlook for the meeting."

The mention of the name of Fred A. Busse for Mayor fills every Republican with enthusiasm.

Fletcher Dolyns, the able and popular lawyer, who made such a brilliant record as Assistant State's Attorney, has been appointed a special Assistant District Attorney in the office of District Attorney Sims.

A comprehensive plan to anticipate the future development of Chicago by paving the business district as far south as Twelfth street at the expense of the merchants of Chicago if the city will agree to hurry the construction of a model intercepting sewer system, has been broached to Commissioner of Public Works William L. O'Connell by J. L. Kosner of the State Street Property Owners' Improvement Association. It is proposed to use asphalt or some suitable material that may fill the requirements for durability on streets used for heavy traffic.

Fred A. Busse is liked by the business men, the politicians and the people in general.

The child labor law is a good law and should be strictly enforced.

Now that all that could be made by grafters has been made out of the drainage canal, the reformers are urging the adoption of some other method of disposing of the sewage. It must be some method that there is coin in for them.

The "White City" Aldermen should be freed from the City Council.

Wonderful how popular the J. Pierpont Morgan traction settlement is with the "reform" Aldermen, isn't it?

Death or imprisonment in the penitentiary for life as a punishment for burglary was recommended by the State Legislative Committee at its meeting last Monday. Alderman William J. Pringle, chairman of the committee, was ordered to confer with the Corporation Counsel and have an ordinance drafted which will be presented to the Council at its next meeting.

On the ground that cold and unsanitary street cars are an injury to the public health, Dr. Charles J. Whalen, head of the city department of health, notified the street car companies Wednesday to remedy at once the existing conditions or suffer penalty of being dealt with as ordinary lawbreakers who maintain a nuisance in the city limits. Arrests and injunction suits may follow.

Dr. Whalen announced that the overcrowding of street cars and providing neither heat nor proper ventilation in cars is breeding disease and the situation must be abated at once.

Mayor Dunne has not yet said whether he is a candidate for re-election.

Some legislators seem to imagine that all the people of Chicago want is primary law election.

Charley Alling, an ex-Alderman, wants to succeed to Judge Gary's place on the Superior Court bench.

The citizens of the Nineteenth Senatorial District can feel satisfied that their interests will be well looked after in the State Senate by their able representative, Charles E. Crullshank.